

In re Patent Application of:  
GUINEA ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/784,549  
Filing Date: FEBRUARY 15, 2001

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REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application, and for correctly indicating the allowability of the subject matter of Claim 31. Independent Claim 29 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 31, which has been cancelled for consistency therewith. Claims 13-28 and 32-35 have also been cancelled.

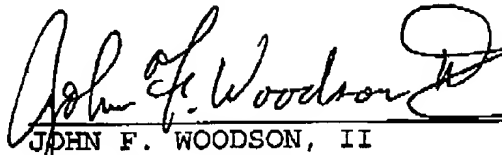
Claims 36-51 are newly added. Of these, Claims 36-42 depend from Claim 29, and support for these claims may be found in previously presented Claims 14-21, for example. Claims 42-51 are method claims corresponding to Claims 29, 30, and 36-42, respectively. No new matter is being added.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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